



RECEIVED

MAR 31 2003

Environmental Cleanup Office

March 26, 2003

Chip Humphrey  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10  
811 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Portland, OR 97204

Tara Martich  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10  
1200 Sixth Ave, M/S ECL-115  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Re: Lower Willamette River, Portland Harbor Superfund Site  
USEPA Docket No: CERCLA-10-2001-0240  
Monthly Progress Report for February 2003**



Dear Mr. Humphrey and Ms. Martich:

This monthly status report contains information required by the Portland Harbor Superfund Site Administrative Order on Consent.

**1. ACTIONS TAKEN IN FEBRUARY 2003**

The following activities were taken in February 2003 to comply with the AOC:

- EPA and the LWG agreed to meld the Round 1 multiplate and benthic infauna data into one report which is in preparation.
- The 2002 bathymetric data report was submitted to EPA
- LWG continued discussions with EPA regarding the analysis of SVOCs in fish tissue samples collected during Round 1
- Laboratory analyses of sediment and tissue samples continued
- The LWG continued the evaluation of groundwater data at upland facilities
- The LWG continued a file review of upland sites to support development of the Round 2 FSP and source evaluation
- Technical subgroups continued to meet to discuss and resolve technical issues that will be addressed in the revised Work Plan
- EPA and LWG management met to discuss and prioritize project issues
- LWG continued the validation of available sediment chemistry data
- The LWG discussed results of EPA's validation of the first sediment data package with EPA

- LWG laboratories completed a qualitative screening of PCBs in tissues and discussed recommended method modifications with EPA
- A technical memorandum reporting the results of a seep reconnaissance survey was submitted to EPA
- The 2002 bathymetry report was submitted to EPA
- The juvenile lamprey / benthic infauna tissue reconnaissance technical memorandum was submitted to EPA.

## **2. RESULTS OF SAMPLING, TESTS AND OTHER DATA RECEIVED**

- Round 1 benthic infauna data were received from the laboratory
- Additional sediment data were received from the laboratory
- Initial tissue metals data were received from the laboratory

## **3. SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT TWO MONTHS**

The work described in the AOC that is planned for the months of March and April 2003 includes:


- Continue to monitor sediment stakes on a quarterly basis
- Continue processing sediment and tissue chemistry samples
- Validate laboratory data for sediment and tissues
- Conduct a multibeam bathymetric survey after water levels have risen and remained reasonably high for 2-3 weeks
- The LWG will present their recommended approach for hydrodynamic modeling and sediment transport to EPA. Following the meeting the LWG will submit a technical memorandum that describes the purpose and scope of the hydrodynamic modeling effort
- Submit a data report containing the results of the multiplate and benthic infauna studies
- Submit technical memoranda containing the results of the amphibian/plant recon survey and adult lamprey recon survey
- Continue subgroup meetings to address work plan and field sampling plan issues
- Complete and submit the revised Work Plan
- Complete and submit a Round 2A Field Sampling Plan and QAPP Addendum.

#### 4. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED, ANTICIPATED DELAYS AND SOLUTIONS

Resolution of the analysis of SVOCs in fish tissues has not occurred and has delayed the initiation of the SVOC analyses. Resulting data will not be available for approximately 10 weeks following resolution of this issue. Submission of the Round 1 Preliminary Site Characterization Summary Report will occur within 120 days following receipt of the final validated data package.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at (206) 241-5185.

Sincerely,



Betsy Striplin

RI/FS Coordinator

Copies: Bob Wyatt, NW Natural  
LWG Repository